

RESOURCES

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL PROVIDES SUPPORT THROUGH A VARIETY OF WAYS:

- Assistance in developing a School Travel Plan
- Advice on setting up a School Carpooling Scheme
- Assistance in celebrating and rewarding participants
- Assistance in promoting the School Carpooling Scheme

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US ON:

QUEENSTOWN: 03 441 0499
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Carpooling to school is just one of the travel choices for children and families. QLDC offers assistance to schools to improve their travel options in a variety of ways.

School Travel Plan
Walking School Bus
Road Safety
Walking and Cycling

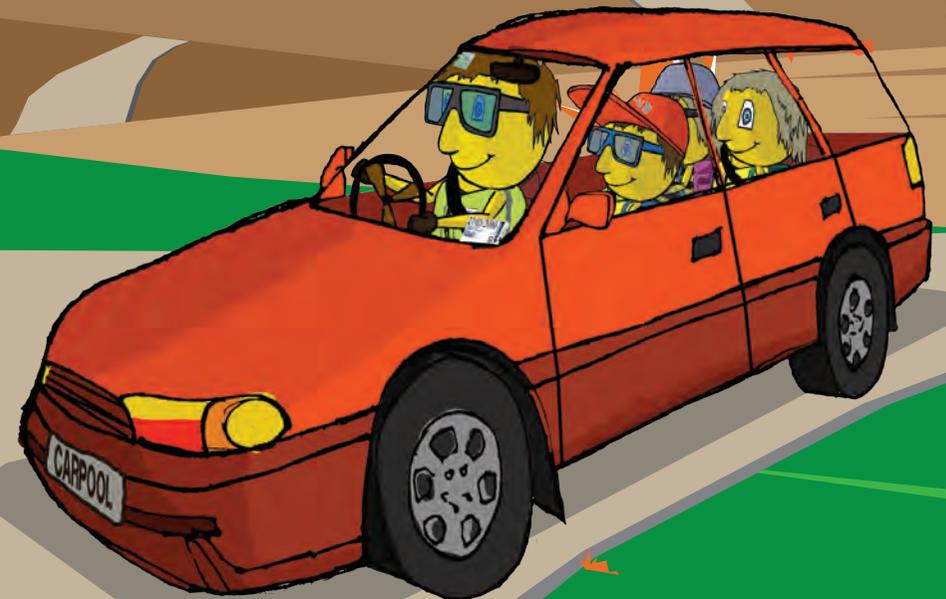
Check out the link below for setting up a carpool at your workplace:
www.qldc.govt.nz/home/transport-and-parking
www.qldc.govt.nz

choice



SCHOOL CARPOOL PLAN LAKES DISTRICT

CARPOOLING TO SCHOOL IS A FUN, SAFE WAY FOR A GROUP OF CHILDREN TO TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL. IT SAVES YOU TIME, MONEY AND STRESS.



WHY CARPOOL?

Driving your children to school can be time consuming, particularly if you have more than one child attending different schools.

THERE ARE SOME OBVIOUS BENEFITS TO SHARING THIS RESPONSIBILITY:

- **SAVE MONEY** - Carpooling to school helps families save money, save time and help the environment, even if they only share a ride a few times a week.
- **SAVE TIME** - Getting your kids safely to school on time and home at the end of the day

takes time and most parents are balancing responsibilities at home, at work, and with the kids.

- **IMPROVE SAFETY OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL GATE** - Reduce traffic congestion around the school's pick-up and drop-off areas. Less cars improve the safety for all students.
- **POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS** - Less cars = reduced air pollution and therefore reduces the school's carbon footprint, supporting a healthier environment.



STARTING SIMPLE

If you are interested in starting a carpool, it is very simple. All it takes is some enthusiasm!

YOU CAN START A CARPOOL BY SIMPLY TALKING TO OTHERS IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

Ask them if they are interested in setting up a carpool schedule.

Set up a schedule with all interested families, determining what days and times work best for each.

Print out a weekly carpool schedule for each participating family, including names of parents, children, addresses and phone numbers.

Make sure that the parents and children know who is picking them up each day.

Remember carpools can extend to extracurricular activities as well. Once you get to know the other parents and children you may find that you have more activities in common than just school.

SETTING UP A SCHOOL CARPOOL

If your school is not involved in a School Travel Plan, starting a school carpool is easy, just follow these simple steps.

→ DETERMINE THE INTEREST FOR A CARPOOL SCHEME AT YOUR SCHOOL

Call for expressions of interest. This can be done by asking the school administrators to search for students living next to each other and then sending out personalised letters to parents/guardians. Another option is to call for expressions of interest in carpooling through the school newsletter, at open days and even with casual conversations at the school gate.

→ FIND CARPOOL MATCHES

Host a "meet and greet" session. Invite all potential and interested families to meet each other and share details such as who can drive, when and how often and how many seats are available.

→ PROMOTE THE SCHEME

Promote the school carpool scheme. School carpools only get better and easier with more people involved. Discuss the carpool scheme in school newsletters, websites, parent packs and other communication material from the school. Write stories about existing carpool families or use testimonials. The best way to recruit new families is to use those already carpooling.

It is also a good idea to have rewards and recognition programmes for those who sign up and demonstrate commitment

to carpooling. Council can assist you in setting up a rewards and recognition programme.

→ ESTABLISH A CARPOOL REGISTER

Compile a carpool register with all the names and addresses of families that have signed up to be a part of the school carpool scheme. Share this with the families so they can get in contact with others in their area.

→ DEVELOP GUIDELINES

The success of a school carpool scheme requires flexibility and commitment from those involved. One way to ensure the process runs smoothly is to create some guidelines that include information for participants about safety and responsibilities.

→ **KEEP THE CARPOOL SCHEME GOING**
It is important to think about fun ways to encourage growth and ongoing participation in the carpool scheme.

Acknowledge your drivers and student carpoolers

Regularly promote the scheme to new parents

Have theme days or celebrations

